(a) whether the Government are aware that the new trade policy has affected the transformers industry severely;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this industry is unable to meet its import requirements; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (a) above.

(c) and (d). The essential raw materials required for the manufacture of transformers have been allowed for import in terms of the Import Policy. For Limited Permissible items, Special Licences are granted to Actual Users in the Small Scale Sector and for restricted items, these licences are granted to all Actual Users.

Trade Agreement with Uzbekistan

1506. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Trade agreement has been signed with Uzbekistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the terms and conditions of the agreement; and

(c) the items proposed to be exported and imported under the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Agreement was signed in Tashkent on the 24th October, 1991. It provides inter-alia for trade between India and the Republic of Uzbekistan to be carried out on a balanced basis in Indian rupees. The pricing of commodities will, however, be made in convertible currencies.

(c) The items proposed to be exported to Uzbekistan include agricultural products, minerals and ores, chemicals and allied, products, leather and leather manufactures, textiles, engineering goods etc. The items proposed to be imported from Uzbekistan include agricultural products, minerals like copper, zinc etc., fertilisers like urea and ammonia, metallurgical products, chemicals and allied products and machinery and equipment in the power, textile, construction and chemical sectors.

Reopening of Raghuvanshi Textile Mill, Bombay

1507. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bombay based Raghuvanshi Textile Mills is being reopened;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions on which it has been permitted to be reopened; and

(c) the number of persons who will be re-employed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) Raghuvanshi Mills Bombay was found viable by Nodal Agency. Attempt was made to revive thus unit through workers cooperative but was not successful. subsequently BIFR had to issue prima facie winding up notice.

(c) In view or (a) & (b) above question doe not arise.